

ISSUE DATES

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- 05.09.11



ADDITIONAL LESSONS
 & QUIZZES:
UPFRONTMAGAZINE.COM

A SUPPLEMENT TO
 THE NEW YORK TIMES UPFRONT

Nearly one and a half million teenagers play high school football, and weekly games are social rituals at many schools. Our cover story looks at the rising incidence of head injuries—particularly concussions—among players, and the new rules being considered at both the state and federal levels to ensure that young athletes are not being put at undue risk. Can football be made safe enough?

The dangers of smoking are well known in the 21st century. Yet every day, 1,000 children and teenagers get hooked on tobacco. A new law will soon require American cigarette makers to include large graphic images of smoking's effects on their packages and in their advertising. Will the warnings prevent a new generation from becoming regular smokers?

North Korea—one of the world's last totalitarian states—has a starving population, a standing army of more than a million soldiers, and nuclear weapons. Now its ailing leader, Kim Jong Il, appears prepared to hand power to his youngest son, Kim Jong Un. We take a look at why Washington is so closely watching the secretive transfer of power in Pyongyang—and whether North Korea's nuclear threat can be contained.

In Times Past, we look back at the Persian Gulf War of 1991, which helped shape America's involvement in the Middle East today, including the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the fight against Muslim extremists.

Elliott Rebhun
 ELLIOTT REBHUN, Editor

KEY ARTICLES

CURRICULUM STANDARDS *Subject/NCSS*

COVER STORY

6 HARD KNOCKS

The number of head injuries among football players is rising and the after-effects are more serious than previously thought. Is football just too dangerous?

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Individuals, Groups & Institutions
- Individual Development & Identity

NATIONAL

8 TARGETING TOBACCO

Cigarette packs will soon come with graphic warnings meant to shock smokers. Will they prevent more teens from getting hooked?

SOCIAL STUDIES

- CIVICS
- Culture
- Production, Distribution & Consumption

NATIONAL

10 WHAT'S YOUR RELIGION IQ?

Many Americans get an 'F' when it comes to their knowledge of religion. Take our quiz to see what you know.

GEOGRAPHY

- GLOBAL STUDIES
- Individuals, Groups & Institutions
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12 RISING SON

North Korea is one of the world's most isolated, repressive, and dangerous nations. Soon, its ailing dictator may hand over power to his mysterious 20-something son.

WORLD HISTORY

- GLOBAL STUDIES
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- Time, Continuity & Change

TIMES PAST

14 1991: THE WAR BEFORE THE WAR

The Persian Gulf War, launched 20 years ago next month, helped shape America's involvement in the Middle East today.

WORLD HISTORY

- U.S. HISTORY
- Power, Authority & Governance
- Time, Continuity & Change

HARD KNOCKS



CRITICAL THINKING

The article refers to football's "gladiator culture," in which playing through pain is considered a virtue.

→ Why do you think that idea has been pervasive in football? Is it true for other sports too?

→ Why do you think football-related injuries and deaths among young

players are on the rise?

→ Why might young football players not receive proper medical attention when they sustain head injuries?

→ What could be done to help protect them better?

WRITING PROMPT

Script a public-service announcement geared to

young football players, coaches, and parents about the dangers of football-related head injuries. Focus on signs of injury, injury prevention, and game safety.

DEBATE

Support or refute: The risks for young people playing football outweigh the sport's benefits.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What makes football particularly dangerous for young players?

What are some of the new rules being adopted by states to prevent football brain injuries? Do you think they'll be effective? Why or why not?

What can football coaches and players do to reduce the number of concussions?

Do you think the NFL has done enough to protect its players? Does it have a responsibility to set an example for younger players? Why or why not?

Why is football so central to the identity of some high schools and colleges? How important is the football team at your school?

FAST FACT

Heatstroke is another major concern for football players. More than 40 football players nationwide have died of heatstroke since 1995; 31 were high school athletes. ●

WEB WATCH

www.unc.edu/depts/nccsi

The National Center for Catastrophic Sport Injury Research collects sports-injury data yearly for many sports.

TARGETING TOBACCO



CRITICAL THINKING

Every day, about 1,000 children and teenagers become regular smokers, and 4,000 try cigarettes for the first time.
 → Why do you think so many young people smoke, even though the dangers are now commonly known?
 → What role do the media and ads play in

influencing smokers?
 → Who or what else might influence young people to smoke?

By law, all packs of cigarettes sold in the U.S. soon will include graphic warnings of the dangers of smoking.
 → What kinds of images might deter people from smoking? (If possible,

show students examples of the proposed images. Which seem the most effective, and why?)
 → Do you think such images will deter smokers or would-be smokers? Explain.

WRITING PROMPT

Write an essay about the way smoking is portrayed in the media, including advertising. What messages are young people getting about smoking, and which ones are the most powerful?

WEB WATCH

www.tobaccofreekids.org

The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids works to change public attitudes and policies on tobacco and to prevent young people from smoking.

DEBATE

Support or refute: Given the dangers of smoking and costs to society, cigarettes should be banned outright.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How have some cigarette manufacturers reacted to the new warnings? Do you agree or disagree with their position? Explain.

Why is smoking on the rise in developing countries but decreasing in developed countries like the U.S.?

Do you think teenagers today feel differently about smoking than their parents did when they were young? Explain.

FAST FACT

Lebanon has the highest percentage of daily smokers in the world—58.8 percent. In the U.S., the figure is 21 percent. ●

RISING SON

Rising Son
North Korea is one of the most isolated, repressive, and dangerous nations in the world. Now, its aging dictator is about to hand over power to his mysterious 20-something son.

THE TWO KOREAS

	North Korea	South Korea
Population	25 million	50 million
Area	120,000 sq. miles	60,000 sq. miles
Capital	Pyeongongyang	Seoul
Official Language	North Korean	South Korean
Major Religion	None	Buddhism, Christianity
Major Industry	None	Manufacturing
Major Export	None	Electronics
Major Import	None	Electronics
Major Trade Partner	China	U.S.
Major Ally	China	U.S.
Major Enemy	U.S.	North Korea
Major Conflict	None	None
Major Achievement	None	None
Major Problem	None	None
Major Future	None	None

LESSON PLAN 3

CRITICAL THINKING

North Korea is one of the last remaining totalitarian states.
 →What characterizes totalitarianism? (single ruler, central ideology, police state, restricted media and speech)
 →What are some examples of totalitarian nations in the past? (Nazi Germany, the

Soviet Union under Joseph Stalin)
 →What must a totalitarian government do to maintain control over its people? How do you think North Korea's government might try to promote Kim Jong Un as the country's future leader?

WRITING PROMPT

Write an essay comparing the lives of teenagers in North Korea and in the U.S. What, if anything, might they have in common?

DEBATE

Debate the pros and cons of an engagement policy with North Korea.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

In what ways is North Korea "probably the most isolated nation on Earth"? How does that isolation affect its

economy and its people?

What caused the current tension between North Korea and South Korea?

Why do you think South Korea's economy is booming while North Korea's is failing?

Do you think North Korea and South Korea will ever be reunified? Explain.

How might North Koreans feel about Kim Jong Un's expected rise

to power? Do you think they have hopes that he might bring about change? Explain.

How important is it for the U.S. to maintain troops in South Korea? How vulnerable are they to a North Korean attack?

FAST FACT

Ki Jong Il's father, Kim Il-sung, was North Korea's leader from its founding in 1948 until his death in 1994. ●

WEB WATCH

<http://topics.nytimes.com/northkorea>

Current and historic articles, multimedia, and other Web resources on North Korea from NYTimes.com

1991: THE WAR BEFORE THE WAR



CRITICAL THINKING

Compare the Persian Gulf War, fought in 1991, with the war in Iraq that began in 2003.

- What were the causes of each conflict? Why did the U.S. resort to war? What was at stake?
- What was done to resolve each situation prior to a military strike?
- How successful was

military intervention in these wars? → How are the two wars related?

WRITING PROMPT

The Gulf War was the first conflict seen “in real time” on TV. Write an essay about the role of the media in covering wars today. What responsibilities do

the media have? How has the instantaneous nature of modern media (cable TV, the Web, etc.) affected the public’s perception of war and America’s war efforts?

DEBATE

Support of refute: President George H. W. Bush should have not allowed Saddam Hussein to remain in power during the Gulf War.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How did the Persian Gulf War affect America’s role in the Middle East? Why do you think the U.S. came to Kuwait’s aid, even though it had no treaty obligations to do so?

What did President George H.W. Bush do to unify 32 countries against Iraq during this conflict?

Why did Saudi Arabia allow U.S. troops to come to its defense?

Why did the Iraq War turn out to be so much more complicated than the Gulf War in 1991?

Do you think the U.S. would be fighting in Afghanistan today if the Persian Gulf War had not happened? Explain.

FAST FACT

The U.S. military spent about \$51 billion during the Gulf War. The Iraq War has cost about \$715 billion to date. ●

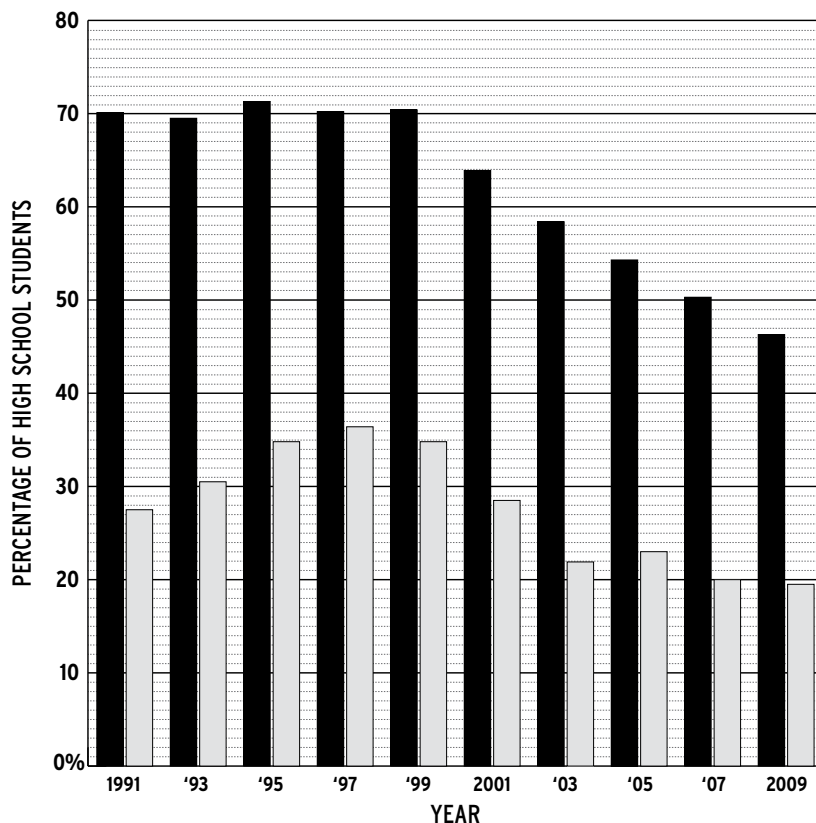
WEB WATCH

www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/gulf

PBS Frontline’s Gulf War site provides an in-depth look at the conflict, including interviews with top decision makers, firsthand accounts, a chronology, and more.

TEENAGE SMOKERS

With all the publicity about smoking's dangers, most American teens could probably list many of the health risks associated with smoking—yet every day, 4,000 teens in the U.S. light up for the first time. The government has added warning labels to cigarette packs and banned tobacco ads on TV to try to prevent this. Soon, packs will carry graphic images of smoking's effects. Health officials hope the images will sharpen the downward trends seen on the graph.



Key:
 Ever smoked cigarettes
 Smoked at least once in the last month

This graph shows two measurements of smoking among high school students: the percentage who have ever tried cigarettes, and the percentage who have smoked at least once in the previous month.

SOURCE: CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, 2009

ANALYZE THE GRAPH

- ❶ Of the high school students who said in 2009 that they had ever smoked, about _____ of them had smoked in the past month.
 - a 19 percent
 - b 31 percent
 - c 42 percent
 - d 62 percent
- ❷ What's the approximate difference, in percentage points, between the highest and lowest proportion shown for high school students who had ever smoked?
 - a 20
 - b 25
 - c 30
 - d 35
- ❸ The year that had the greatest difference between those who had ever smoked versus those who had smoked in the past month was _____.
 - a 1991
 - b 1993
 - c 2003
 - d 2007
- ❹ Since 2003, the proportion of students who said they had ever smoked has dropped by about 4 percentage points every two years. At this rate, the figure would fall to about 30 percent by
 - a 2011
 - b 2013
 - c 2015
 - d 2017
- ❺ Which trend is seen on this graph?
 - a The percentage of teens who'd ever smoked was fairly steady in the 1990s.
 - b Teen smoking is on the rise.
 - c Most teens have smoked in the last month.
 - d Young smokers mirror adult smokers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ❶ Based on the differences between the black and gray bars on the graph, what conclusions might you draw about teen smoking?
- ❷ How do cigarette ads depict the experience of smoking? What do these ads "promise" to those who use their products? How will graphic images that are added as warnings compare with the images used in the ads?
- ❸ How successful do you think the new graphic images will be in curtailing smoking, and why?

HARD KNOCKS (P. 6)

❶ Chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or C.T.E.,

- a** has physical effects but not mental ones.
- b** is a debilitating brain disease that can be caused by repeated hits to the head.
- c** occurs in at least half of all athletes.
- d** has been detected only in people diagnosed with concussions.

❷ Many states have adopted or are considering strict rules about

- a** how and when public school players can be cleared to return to play after a concussion.
- b** how many games high school football teams can play in a season.
- c** mandating concussion-awareness programs for players, coaches, and parents.
- d** A and B
- e** B and C
- f** A and C

❸ Which of the following statements is true?

- a** Most teens and coaches can recognize the symptoms of a concussion.
- b** Teens' brains are fairly resistant to injury.
- c** Football culture encourages some of the behaviors that can lead to brain injuries.
- d** High school football players typically receive more expert medical care than older players.

❹ The article suggests that football can be made safer by

- a** making sure players with head injuries do not play again until they have healed.
- b** limiting the number of practices and games.
- c** adopting a no-tackle rule.
- d** hiring medical professionals to be coaches.

❺ The N.F.L. is fining and threatening to suspend

- a** coaches who put injured players in too soon.
- b** team doctors who don't treat head injuries.
- c** players who violate existing rules against unnecessary or intentional hits.
- d** players who fail to report concussions.

IN-DEPTH QUESTIONS

- ❶** What is a concussion? How does it affect the brain? What are the symptoms of a concussion? Why might one be hard to detect?
- ❷** After reading the article, do you think football is safe for young people to play? Why or why not?
- ❸** What recommendations would you make for your school's football program to keep players as safe as possible?

RISING SON (P. 12)

❶ North Korea’s Kim Jong Il appears ready to hand power to

- a newly elected Premier Choe Yong-rim.
- b his half-brother, Kim Pyong Il.
- c his eldest son, Kim Jong-nam.
- d his youngest son, Kim Jong Un.

❷ In response to a North Korean torpedo’s sinking of a South Korean warship in March,

- a South Korea tested a nuclear missile.
- b South Korea suspended all trade and aid to North Korea.
- c the U.S. suspended food shipments to North Korea.
- d South Korean troops moved into North Korea.

❸ Today, North Korea

- a is no longer backed by the former Soviet Union and China.
- b gets most of its income from selling surplus food.
- c is considered a global economic power.
- d is carrying out some democratic reforms.

❹ A major concern about North Korea for the

U.S.—and the rest of the world—is that

- a its many factories are big contributors to global warming.
- b it may be harboring Al Qaeda cells.
- c it has a huge trade surplus with the U.S.
- d it has a secretive nuclear program that is not under U.N. supervision.

❺ North Korea remains isolated from the rest of the world in part because

- a of its geographic remoteness from the rest of Asia.
- b most countries want to keep North Korea and South Korea from reuniting.
- c the government strictly controls the media.
- d it is not a member of the United Nations.

❻ Compare and contrast North Korea and South Korea today.

IN-DEPTH QUESTIONS

❶ What are the hallmarks of a totalitarian society? How does North Korea today compare with Nazi Germany and with the Soviet Union under Joseph Stalin?

❷ Why do you think the U.S. maintains so many troops in South Korea so long after the end of hostilities in the Korean War?

❸ What might be some of the biggest obstacles to a potential reunification of North Korea and South Korea?

1991: THE WAR BEFORE THE WAR (P. 14)

- ❶ The Persian Gulf War in 1991 was fought in response to**
- a Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.
 - b Saddam Hussein's rise to power in Iraq.
 - c a terrorist attack on Saudi Arabia.
 - d Saddam Hussein's threat to wage "the mother of all battles" against the U.S.
- ❷ One key reason that the U.S. became involved in this conflict was that**
- a Kuwait provided most of the oil imported into the U.S.
 - b there were concerns that Iraq was hiding weapons of mass destruction.
 - c the U.S. had treaty obligations to do so.
 - d it was protecting a strong ally—Saudi Arabia—and its critical oil reserves.
- ❸ The war effort against Iraq in 1991 was dubbed _____.**
- a Operation Enduring Freedom
 - b Operation Iraqi Freedom
 - c Operation Desert Storm
 - d Operation Gulf Sand
- ❹ While waiting to see whether sanctions against Iraq would work, President George H.W. Bush's administration**
- a began diplomatic talks with Iraq.
 - b built broad international support for a potential war against Iraq.
 - c launched air strikes on Iraqi targets.
 - d appointed new military commanders to develop a war strategy.
- ❺ According to the article, what aspect of the Persian Gulf War did Osama bin Laden use as justification for declaring war on the U.S.?**
- a the fact that many Muslim countries backed America's fight against Iraq
 - b the presence of non-Muslim U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia
 - c America's intention to force a "regime change" in Iraq
 - d Iraq's use of suicide bombers in the war

IN-DEPTH QUESTIONS

- ❶** Why do you think so many countries rallied behind the American-led war effort during the Persian Gulf War? What was at stake for other nations?
- ❷** What might the Middle East look like today had the U.S. allowed Iraq's invasion of Kuwait to go unanswered?
- ❸** Why, historically, has there been so much tension in the Middle East? What other wars have been fought among countries there, and why?

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USE with articles identified.

The statements are answers to questions (modeled after the TV show *Jeopardy!*). Students must answer in the form of questions.

DIVIDE the class into teams.

READ the statements.

CALL on the first team with a hand raised.

CORRECT ANSWER = 10 points
 WRONG ANSWER = -10 points
 (And another team may respond for the same chance to gain or lose 10 points.)

TARGETING TOBACCO

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| ❶ New graphic warning labels for cigarettes are designed to cover this much of the surface area of a pack. | What is half? |
| ❷ The percentage of American high school students who smoke. | What is 20 percent? |
| ❸ The cost of treating smoking-related health problems each year in the U.S. | What is more than \$96 billion? |
| ❹ The year cigarette ads on TV and radio were banned in the U.S. | What is 1970? |
| ❺ Cigarette manufacturers in the U.S. must display the graphic warnings on all of their products by this month and year. | What is October 2012? |

RISING SON

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| ❶ He is the dictator who rules North Korea. | Who is Kim Jong Il? |
| ❷ When World War II ended, this country occupied the northern half of Korea. | What is the former Soviet Union? |
| ❸ Kim Jong Il's youngest son, now poised to take the reins of power from his father. | Who is Kim Jong Un? |
| ❹ In 2006, North Korea announced that it had done this. | What is exploded a nuclear bomb? |
| ❺ The U.S. maintains this many troops in South Korea. | What is 28,000? |

QUIZ 1 ► PAGE TE 5

- ❶ [b] is a debilitating brain disease that can be caused by repeated hits to the head.
- ❷ [f] A and C
- ❸ [c] Football culture encourages some of the behaviors that can lead to brain injuries.
- ❹ [a] making sure players with head injuries do not play again until they have healed.
- ❺ [c] players who violate existing rules against unnecessary or intentional hits.

QUIZ 2 ► PAGE TE 5

- ❶ [d] his youngest son, Kim Jong Un.
- ❷ [b] South Korea suspended all aid and trade to North Korea.
- ❸ [a] is no longer backed by the former Soviet Union and China.
- ❹ [d] it has a secretive nuclear program that is not under U.N. supervision.
- ❺ [c] The government strictly controls the media.
- ❻ Answers will vary.

QUIZ 3 ► PAGE TE 6

- ❶ [a] Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.
- ❷ [d] it was protecting a strong ally—Saudi Arabia—and its critical oil reserves.
- ❸ [c] Operation Desert Storm
- ❹ [b] built strong international support for a potential war against Iraq.
- ❺ [b] the presence of non-Muslim U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia

GRAPH ► PAGE TE 4

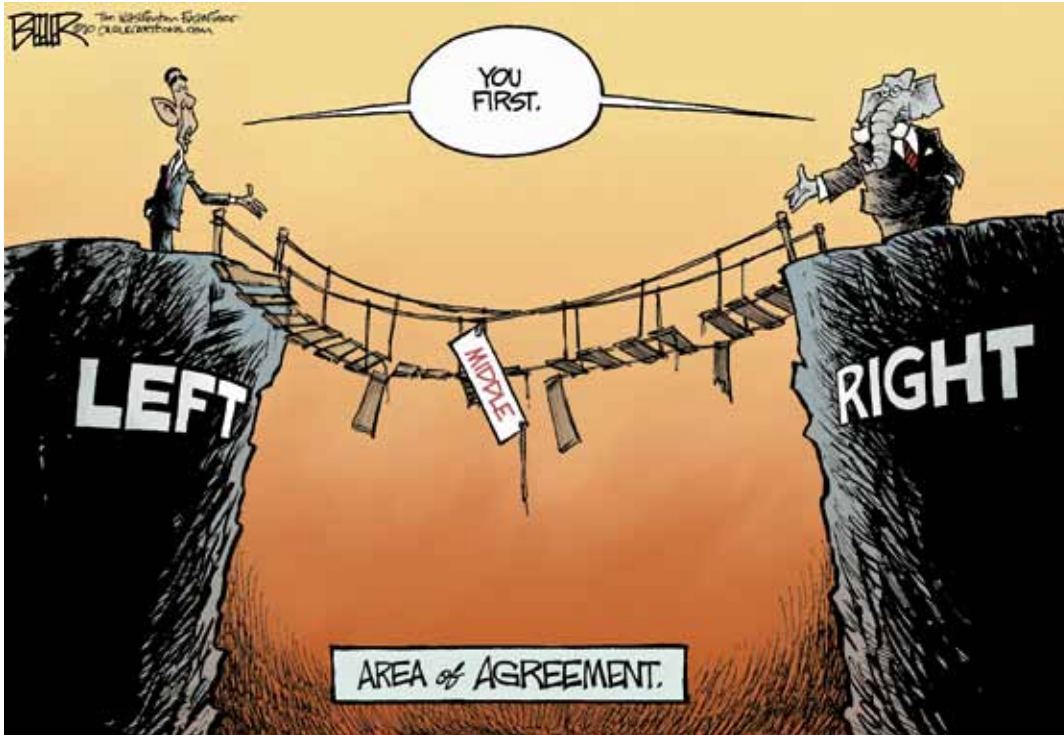
- ❶ [c] 42 percent
- ❷ [b] 25
- ❸ [a] 1991
- ❹ [d] 2017
- ❺ [a] The percentage of teens who'd ever smoked was fairly steady in the 1990s.

ANSWERS FROM RELIGION QUIZ ON P. 10

1. C
2. A
3. B
4. A
5. C
6. A
7. B
8. A
9. D
10. B
11. A
12. C
13. A
14. B
15. A

**ONLINE TEACHER
RESOURCES & DIGITAL
EDITIONS PASSWORD:
congress**

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ANALYZE THE POLITICAL CARTOON

- 1 Who is pictured on opposite sides of the bridge, and what political philosophy does each represent?
- 2 What does the bridge symbolize? Why is it rickety?
- 3 On which current issues might the two sides need to reach an "area of agreement"?
- 4 Does the cartoon suggest that it's possible for these sides to meet in the middle? What could happen if they try?
- 5 What might the sun setting in the background represent?

NATE BEELER • WASHINGTON EXAMINER (WASHINGTON, D.C.) • CAGLE



**WARNING:
Cigarettes
cause
cancer.**

ANALYZE THE PHOTO

(See page 8 in the magazine)

- 1 How does this image make you feel? What does it make you think about?
- 2 Do you think images like this will deter people from smoking?
- 3 Do you agree or disagree with cigarette companies' argument that labels like this infringe on their rights to sell a legal product? Why?

ESSAY

Is the government doing enough to prevent teens from smoking? Explain your point of view.